

REMARKS

Original claims 1-8 are those filed in the divisional application co-filed with this preliminary amendment, and are those defined as group 4 in a restriction requirement made against the parent application 09/454,903 (filing date 12/03/1999). The restriction requirement was made in an Office Action dated 09/25/2001 against the co-pending parent application.

The two independent claims, 1 and 5, have been amended to include the limitation that terminals generate the transaction identifiers found on the vouchers, to comport with the limitations applicable to player terminals found in the allowed claims of the parent application.

The IDS included with this application, US Patent 6,500,067, is believed to be patentability distinct from the present application (different limitations). That patent and the present application were at all times contractually obligated to, and owned by, the same entity: Sierra Design Group. There is also overlap in inventors.

Conclusion

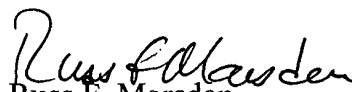
It is believed that this preliminary amendment places the co-filed divisional application into condition for allowance. Consideration for same is respectfully requested. Please feel free to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions or for an interview, especially if an interview would help expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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